

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3175
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2005
MOBILE PHONES IN ASSAM
Osmani Shri A.F. Golam

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of mobile telephones in operation in the various districts of Assam particularly Bongaigaon, exchange-wise;
- (b) the number of village Gram Panchayats covered by each exchange and the number of mobile telephones including VPT connections issued till date;
- (c) the number of villages covered under mobile network;
- (d) the number of VPT connections issued in Bongaigaon district;
- (e) the number of applications for mobile connections pending during the last three years; and
- (f) the steps taken to clear all the applications expeditiously?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

- (a) As on 31.10.2005, the number of mobile connections provided in Assam are 4,76,778 out of which Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) has provided 2,12,914. BSNL has covered 26 district Headquarters (DHQs). In Bongaigaon district, BSNL has so far provided 30,884 mobile connections. In mobile network, the whole service areas is treated as local area and the subscriber figures are maintained service-area wise.
- (b) In Assam, BSNL has provided around 22,147 Villages Public Telephones (VPTs) including 2,403 Gram Panchayat Public Telephones (GPPTs) using Wireless in Local Loop (WLL), Multiple Access Rural Radio (MARR) and land line technologies.
- (c) In Assam, around 2,576 villages are getting incidental coverage of BSNL's cellular service.
- (d) 891 VPTs have been provided by BSNL in Bongaigaon district.
- (e) 68,279 applicants are in waiting list for mobile connections of BSNL in Assam Telecom Circle Service Area.
- (f) BSNL has plans to augment the capacity by 2.5 lakh lines in Assam during the current financial year.